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10/781,307	02/18/2004	John G. Beltran	G&C 30566.296-US-U1	4847

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EXAMINER

ALI, OMAR R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2109

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/01/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/781,307

Applicant(s)

BELTRAN ET AL.

Examiner

Omar Abdul-Ali

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17:2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/04.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to the original filing of February 18, 2004. Claims 1-16 are pending and have been considered below.

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the examiner notes the use of acronyms (e.g. LAN, WAN, etc.) throughout the specification without first including a description in plain text, as required.

Appropriate correction is required.

2. The use of the trademarks Netscape NavigatorTM and Microsoft Internet ExplorerTM has been noted in this application. They should be capitalized wherever they appear and be accompanied by the generic terminology.

Although the use of trademarks is permissible in patent applications, the proprietary nature of the marks should be respected and every effort made to prevent their use in any manner which might adversely affect their validity as trademarks.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the

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applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ramchandani et al. (US 6,486,893).

Claim 1: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X, control comprising:

- a. receiving a reference to an object instance (standard Active X control) having a dynamic property that is supplied at runtime for the object instance on a per instance basis and is not stored with the object (column 5, lines 11-15);
- b. retrieving a reference to a property source instance associated with the object, wherein the property source instance (type library) maintains knowledge of the dynamic property (Col 6, lines 5-16);
- c. providing the reference to the object and the reference to the property source to a control (property browser) which is configured to: (i) retrieve the dynamic property from the property source and (ii) display the property in a user interface (column 6, lines 5-39).

Claim 2: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control as in Claim 1 above, further comprising:

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a. the dynamic property is provided by an application that is extending an object property set of the object (column 6, lines 5-16).

Claim 3: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control as in Claim 1 above, further comprising:

a. reference to the property source instance (type library) is retrieved from a mapping of property source instances to object class (column 5, lines 61-65/Column 6, lines 17-34).

Claim 4: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control as in Claim 1 above, further comprising:

a. the control is further configured to: retrieve the standard properties of the object; and display the standard properties (column 6, lines 5-39).

Claim 5: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control, comprising:

a. an object instance having a dynamic property that is supplied at runtime for the object instance on a per-instance basis and is not stored with the object (column 5, lines 11-15);

b. a property source instance associated with the object, wherein the property source instance maintains knowledge of the dynamic property (column 6, lines 5-15);

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c. a host (container) configured to: (i) retrieve a reference to the object instance; (ii) retrieve a reference to the property source; (iii) provide the reference to the object and the reference to the property source to a control which is configured to: (1) retrieve the dynamic property from the property source; and (2) display the property in a user interface (column 6, lines 5-16).

Claim 6: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control as in Claim 5 above, further comprising:

a. the dynamic property is provided by an application that is extending an object property set of the object (column 6, lines 5-16).

Claim 7: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control as in Claim 5 above, further comprising:

a. a mapping of property source instances to object classes, wherein the host (container) is configured to retrieve the reference to the property source instance from the mapping (column 5, lines 61-65/column 6, lines 17-34).

Claim 8: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control as in Claim 5 above, further comprising:

a. the control is further configured to: retrieve the standard properties for the object; and display the properties (column 6, lines 5-39).

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Claim 9: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control, comprising:

- a. receiving a first object having a first property, wherein the first object provides a custom Active X control that defines a first user interface for displaying and editing the first property (column 5, lines 61-67 to column 6, lines 1-46);
- b. creating a list of one or more object properties to be displayed, wherein the list includes the first property (column 6, lines 7-16);
- c. instantiating the custom Active X control (column 5, lines 61-67 to column 6, lines 1-6);
- d. displaying the object properties in the list, wherein the display of the first property comprises the first user interface defined by the instantiated Active X control, wherein the property may be edited through the first user interface (column 6, lines 7-16);

Claim 10: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control as in Claim 9 above, further comprising:

- a. instantiating one or more stock Active X controls that define one or more additional user interfaces for displaying and editing remaining object properties in the list, wherein the stock Active X controls are not provided by any object containing one or more of the remaining object properties (column 6, lines 1-46).

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Claim 11: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control as in Claim 10 above, further comprising:

a. the first user interface and additional user interfaces are displayed in a single dialog box (Figure 10).

Claim 12: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control as in Claim 9 above, further comprising:

a. an application programming interface provides the ability to push the first object to a second object for display (column 5, lines 66-67/column 6, lines 5-39).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ramchandani et al. (US 6,486,893).

Claim 13: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control, further comprising:

a. one or more objects, wherein each object has one or more object properties (column 6, lines 5-16);

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b. a property inspector (property browser) configured to: (i) interrogate the one or more objects to discover one or more object properties to be displayed; (ii) create a list of the one or more object properties to be displayed; and (iii) instantiate and host one or more property editors (column 6, lines 5-46);

c. Ramchandani does not explicitly disclose (i) one of the property editors comprises a custom Active X control specified by one of the objects and (ii) the custom Active X control defines a custom graphical-user interface for displaying and editing one of the object properties. However, Ramchandani does disclose multiple Active X control objects may be placed onto the form and the property browser is able to display indicators to expand sub-object properties for purposes of manipulating the values of the child properties of the sub-object property (column 6, lines 2-46). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that additional Active X controls specified by individual objects could be used for displaying and editing object properties. One would have been motivated to incorporate custom Active X controls into property editors to provide custom properties that are specific to each control.

Claim 14: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control as in Claim 13 above, but does not explicitly disclose one of the property editors is comprised of a stock Active X control that defines an additional user interface for displaying and editing one or more additional properties in the list, wherein the stock Active X control is not provided by one of the objects that

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contains the one or more additional properties. However, Ramchandani does disclose incorporating other Active X controls into the user interface and providing a property browser that displays an indicator next to objects which contain sub-objects, which can be manipulated (column 6, lines 1-46). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that stock Active X controls could be incorporated into the property editor, defining additional user interfaces. One would have been motivated to incorporate these stock Active X controls into the property editors to provide general Active X properties that are specific to controls that may not require custom properties.

Claim 15: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control as in Claim 14 above, further comprising:

- a. the custom graphical user interface and additional user interfaces are displayed in a single dialog box (Figure 10).

Claim 16: Ramchandani discloses a method and system for a property browser, which displays sub-objects in an Active X control as in Claim 13 above, further comprising:

- a. an application programming interface configured to provide the ability to push the one or more objects to the property inspector for display (column 5, lines 66-67/column 6, lines 5-39).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Omar Abdul-Ali whose telephone number is 571-270-1694. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri(Alternate Fridays Off) 7:30 - 5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Myhre can be reached on 571-270-1065. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

OAA
02/13/07


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